



New Jersey Office of the Attorney General



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State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners
Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee
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Continuing Education Requirement UPDATE

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Please be reminded that a requirement of licensure/certification for the two (2) year licensure period which begins on August 1, 2006 (and for each subsequent 2 year licensure cycle) is that all State certified alcohol and drug counselors (CADCs) complete 60 contact hours of continuing education. Licensed clinical alcohol and drug counselors (LCADCs) are required to complete 40 contact hours. N.J.A.C. 13:34C-5.1 through N.J.A.C. 13:34C-5.5 provides the details for the continuing education requirement.

Those individuals with an initial certification or licensure date of August 1, 2004 through July 31, 2005 (within the first year of the initial biennial period) are required to complete 20 required contact hours *for the first renewal period*. Individuals certified or licensed within the second year of the initial cycle (between August 1, 2005 and July 31, 2006) are exempt from the continuing education requirement *for the first renewal period only*. (See N.J.A.C. 13:34C-5.2.) Continuing education credits must be earned between August 1, 2004 and July 31, 2006 in order to be counted toward requirements for the initial cycle.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:34C-5.2(d), all licensees and certificate holders are required to complete at least ***six contact hours of continuing education in legal standards related to the practice of alcohol and drug counseling during their initial biennial period***. A special course, designed to develop competency in the New Jersey statute and regulations governing the practice of alcohol and drug counselors, will become available in the Fall. ***In order to assure that all certificate holders and licensees complete the required course of study, the time period in which to complete the legal standards continuing education requirement will be extended for one additional renewal period. Therefore, all those certified or licensed between August 1, 2004 and July 31, 2006 must complete the special legal standards course by July 31, 2008.***

Please note that the 2006/2008 (and all future) renewal applications will require a confirmation on the renewal application that the certificate holder/licensee has completed the continuing education requirements. Licensees and certificate holders are required to maintain original certificates for a period of six years. Falsification of any information submitted and/or the failure to complete continuing education requirements may result in disciplinary action by the Committee.

Elaine L. DeMars
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Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee